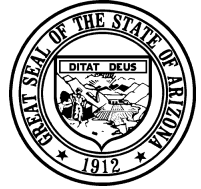


# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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JANE DEE HULL  
Governor

JOSEPH C. SMITH  
Director

June 7, 2001

Dear Interested Party:

As you may be aware, early this year, the Department began a comprehensive examination of the permitting process of the Underground Storage, Savings and Replenishment ("Recharge") Program. This process includes an evaluation of existing Department recharge policies related to permit issuance and the development of a user-friendly application guide for each recharge permit. The primary purposes of this effort are to improve the clarity and certainty of recharge application guidance documents and to ensure that consistent procedures are followed by agency staff in reviewing recharge permit applications.

The application guidance documents will include specifications on how the applicant may establish the statutory criteria for obtaining a recharge permit, as well as what information must be provided with the application to establish those criteria. It is anticipated that these application guidance documents, when completed, will be filed with the Secretary of State as substantive policy statements.

The Department has charged the recharge staff with undertaking this review. The process is being co-chaired by Evelyn Allegretto of the Phoenix Active Management Area Office and Chuck Cahoy of the Legal Division.

Assisting the recharge staff in examining issues dealing with underground storage facility permits is a group of stakeholders who have participated in the recharge permitting process as applicants. The participating stakeholders are Dale Alimena of the City of Mesa, Greg Bushner of Hydrosystems, Tom Harbour of CAWCD, Mike Lacey of Fluid Solutions, Marie Light of the City of Tucson, Rich Siegel of SRP, and Doug Toy of the City of Chandler. The group has been meeting with the recharge staff over the last several months to provide input on the recharge application process and policies from the applicant's perspective.

The recharge staff has been given the following responsibilities: 1) identify whether the Department should alter existing policies or adopt additional policies to clarify the criteria for the issuance of the recharge permits; 2) identify what information needs to be submitted by applicants to satisfy each of the criteria for the permits; 3) document recommendations through the development of a new application packet for the recharge permits; 4) examine the Department's procedures for reviewing applications to identify and recommend any improvements in that process; and 5) submit the draft application packet and any recommended

procedural improvements to the Department's Director for final approval. Currently, the recharge staff and the stakeholders are working on issues pertinent to the processing of underground storage facility permits.

The Department is planning to hold a number of public information forums during this summer and fall to solicit broader public input on the issues and the application packets. The first of these public information forums will be held July 17 at 1:30 p.m. at the Department's Phoenix office at 500 N. Third Street, Third Floor, Conference Room A-B and will focus on the permitting requirements for an underground storage facility permit.

The Department anticipates having the issue papers that will be discussed at the July 17 public information forum available by July 1. The issue papers will discuss the requirements for obtaining an underground storage facility permit and will be available at the Department's offices and on the Department's web site, [www.water.az.gov](http://www.water.az.gov). At the forum, you will be able to ask questions to help better understand the papers and to provide comments on the papers. Written comments will also be accepted on the issue papers for two weeks following the public information forum.

After considering all oral and written comments on the issue papers, the recharge staff will prepare an application guide for applying for underground storage facility permits. After completion, the application guide will also be posted on the Department's web site, and public comment will again be requested before the guide is finalized and submitted to the Director for approval.

Public information forums will also be held to solicit public comment on application guides for water storage permits and recovery well permits. Dates for public information forums on these issue papers have not yet been finalized.

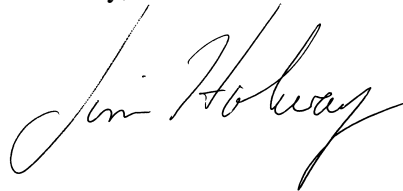
The Department may consolidate these application guides into one application packet, similar to how the current recharge application packet is designed. If the application guides are consolidated into one packet, the final product will be available for viewing and comment prior to the final submittal to the Director for approval.

If you know of anyone who would be interested in attending the public information forums but may not have received this letter, please feel free to share this letter with them or submit their names and addresses to the Department so that they may be added to our mailing list.

If you have any questions, please contact Evelyn Allegretto at (602) 417-2465 or [wrela@adwr.state.az.us](mailto:wrela@adwr.state.az.us) or, if you are located in the Tucson area, Cindy Shimokusu at (520) 770-3800 or [wrces@adwr.state.az.us](mailto:wrces@adwr.state.az.us).

The Department looks forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Holway", written in a cursive style.

Jim Holway  
Assistant Director